

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 /060 W

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R 151500Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8211

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

USNME SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15993

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP,GE, IT,NATO,PFOR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF MILITARY ATTACHES WITH GDR

REFS: A. STATE 237043; B. STATE 248857

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S EAST GERMAN DESK OFFICER (VECCHI)
HAS INFORMED US THAT THE ITALIANS ARE LEANING STRONGLY TO
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ACCEPTANCE OF A GDR MILITARY ATTACHE IN ROME. INITIAL EAST

GERMAN APPROACH ON THIS SUBJECT WAS MADE APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AGO. AFTER INTERVAL OF ALMOST ONE YEAR, EAST GERMANS SUBMITTED FORMAL REQUEST TO PROTOCOL SECTION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTING AGREEMENT FOR ASSIGNMENT OF A MAJOR (FNU) HOFFMANN, REPORTEDLY THE SON OF EAST GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTER HEINZ HOFFMANN, AS MILITARY ATTACHE AT GDR EMBASSY ROME. EAST GERMANS FOLLOWED UP AGREEMENT REQUEST WITH DEMARCHE AT DESK OFFICER LEVEL.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER MORO APPARENTLY FEELS THAT RECOGNITION OF EAST GERMANY CARRIED WITH IT ACCEPTANCE OF FACT THAT SOONER OR LATER GDR WOULD ASK FOR ACCREDITATION OF MILITARY ATTACHE. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REQUESTED DEFENSE MINISTRY TO WEIGH IN ON MATTER AFTER WHICH FINAL DECISION WILL BE TAKEN. CONTINUING GOVERNMENT CRISIS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DELAY FIRING UP OF ITALIAN POSITION WHICH WILL ULTIMATELY BE BASED LARGELY ON VIEWS OF THE NEXT FOREIGN MINISTER.

3. WHICHEVER WAY DECISION GOES, VECCHI MADE IT CLEAR THAT ITALIANS HAVE NO INTENTION OF ASSIGNING A MILITARY ATTACHE TO THEIR EMBASSY IN EAST GERMANY. VOLPE

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